Serial No.: 09/973,888

REMARKS

The indication of allowable subject matter in claims 3 and 5 is acknowledged and

appreciated. In order to expedite issuance of the present application, claims 3 and 5 have been

rewritten into independent form and claims 1, 2, 4 and 7 have been canceled without prejudice or

disclaimer to the subject matter embodied thereby. Accordingly, only allowable claims 3, 5 and 6 are

pending so that the application is now in immediate condition for allowance.

Having fully responded to all matters raised in the Office Action, Applicant submits that all

claims are in condition for allowance, an indication for which is respectfully solicited. If there are

any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the

Examiner is requested to call Applicant's attorney at the telephone number shown below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby

made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including

extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit

account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: March 7, 2005

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